

MINUTES OF THE GEOGRAPHIC RESEARCH AREA STAFF MEETING, 15 SEPTEMBER 1959  
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PRESENT: [REDACTED]

1. New Work

Requests for work were discussed by each of the Division Chiefs, as follows:

a. D/GG

(1) The Black Sea study for SAC was placed in context of a larger requirement for SAC for the study of areas around the border of the Sino-Soviet Bloc for a depth of fifty miles. This larger study will be discussed to determine whether or not our capabilities should be devoted to this kind of research and cartographic activity.

(2) Support of WH PM planning and activities will be limited to directed operational support; [REDACTED] to work on this. 25X1A9a

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(3) Boundary Inventory Study is now under way; prototypes have been received from [REDACTED] It is planned to complete these studies in about 1½ years.

b. D/GC

In addition to the usual requests for cartographic support, there have been recent requests for maps for the project on Guided Missile capabilities of the USSR, a series of charts for the bi-annual budget presentation, and maps for the NIE on strategic bombing capabilities of the USSR.

c. D/GL

No new projects have been undertaken, but emphasis continues to be given to the program supporting efforts to procure Sino-Soviet topographic maps.

2. Travel Plans

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a. [REDACTED] D/GC

Will be leaving for Zurich in early October to attend International Cartography Course. In addition, will visit a minimum number of cartographic installations in Europe.

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- c. 25X1A9a [redacted] D/GG

Will be leaving in January to attend the Arctic Geology Symposium in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

- d. 25X1A9a [redacted] D/GG

Will be leaving in January for an area familiarization trip of Africa.

3. Significant Conversations and Contacts

- a. [redacted] has met with several Branch Chiefs on requirements.

- b. 25X1A6a [redacted] reported on a meeting he and 25X1A9a [redacted] held with the

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- c. 25X1A9a [redacted] has contributed a paragraph to IRC/State on procurement for the Hull Committee report.

- d. 25X1A9a [redacted] reported on conversations with 25X1A9a [redacted] and the progress of the Task Force on standardization of ORR reports. A staff study will soon be completed on this, recommending that GRA and ERA reports be brought into one ORR report system.

- e. 25X1A9a [redacted] reported on a meeting with 25X1A9a [redacted] in which he agreed with the D/GG position that Army should continue to have responsibility for the aerial photographic contribution to the NIS.

4. Problems

- a. D/GC - OBI Coordination

25X1A9a In connection with the problem stated in one of the Branch Monthly Reports relative to coordination with OBI, [redacted] stated he plans to hold a meeting in the near future on D/GC - OBI coordination and procedures.

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b. GM Format

25X1A9a Exceptions to the regular GM format were discussed, and various possible solutions suggested. [REDACTED] agreed to 25X1A9a look into this further prior to the issuance of the GM on Laos. [REDACTED] indicated a need for establishing working parameters for the format of GM's.

c. Issuance of Mission and Functions Statements

25X1A9a [REDACTED] indicated that the early issuance of a current Mission and Functions statement for ORR components would be extremely helpful. [REDACTED] will look into this again.

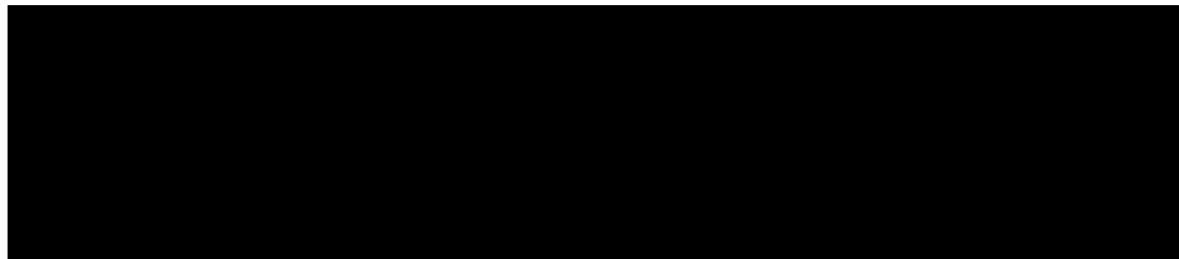
d. Request from Library of Congress for Declassified Maps

25X1A9a [REDACTED] brought up for discussion a request from the Library of Congress for copies of maps which have recently been downgraded to UNCLASSIFIED. LC learned of these maps through a "Regrading Bulletin" issued by the Agency. This was discussed and it was decided that [REDACTED] would talk with [REDACTED] about the request. 25X1A9a

5. Policy Matters

Filling of Area Vacancies -- The question of approaching individuals directly in connection with vacancies within the Area was discussed. It was decided that the current practice employed -- where announcements are made by Division Chiefs explaining the vacancy to their people -- has been a satisfactory means of both advertising and encouraging consideration of vacancies. It was further decided that direct contact would not be made for the purpose of encouraging specific consideration of an existing vacancy or for the purpose of indicating a component's interest in an individual.

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7. Vital Materials

25X1A9a [REDACTED] called the Division Chiefs' attention to a memorandum from [REDACTED] directed to "ORR Branch & Staff Chiefs" on the usefulness of certain bibliographic indexes currently held at the Relocation Center. The memorandum requests a reply by COB, 25 September.

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8. IGU Meetings

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██████████ reported that the memorandum of reply to the Deputy Director of Security (PPS) has been prepared and signed off on by the AD/RR today. The memorandum on cover for personnel attending the meetings is being prepared by Chief, St/A, and should be sent out within the next day or two.

The possibility of financing IGU-sponsored excursions for personnel going to the meetings on their own was discussed. ██████████ will 25X1A9a discuss the question with those people who are planning to go to the meetings on their own. The aim will be to have those excursions covered which are not already included on the itineraries of the Agency-sponsored participants.

9. Intelligence Collection Guides

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██████████ reported that the format for Intelligence Collection Guides has been pretty well developed. He cautioned that we should be especially careful in classifying these guides, so that those releasable to other governments are really "clean", insofar as inclusion of "NOFORN" 25X1A9a and sensitive material is concerned. ██████████

25X1A9a ██████████ to look further into the numbering system set up for the reports prepared by D/GL and which will be integrated into the D/GG report numbering system.